

Appln. No.: 10/643,097
AF Amdt. dated August 5, 2005
Reply to Office action of June 6, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the examiner is misinterpreting the teachings of the prior art and applicant's earlier remarks. It is requested that the examiner reconsider the final rejection in view of the following additional/clarified remarks.

The examiner concedes that Adams et al. fails to disclose preparing a mixture of PTFE resin and a susceptor material as earlier pointed out, Adams further teaches against incorporating a volatile additive (i.e., one which is driven off by heat to impart porosity to the sintered product) in the process of Adams. The examiner appears to acknowledge these express teachings of Adams and proposes to substitute the material of Hori in the process of Adams. However, it is believed that the examiner is giving broader teachings to the disclosure of Hori than that which is actually taught. The material of Hori is a paste of PTFE powder mixed with a conductive substance and an extrusion lubricant. The examiner appears to be disregarding the presence of the extrusion lubricant, which is necessary to make the paste form of the material taught by Hori et al. None of the descriptions and examples of Hori describe any processing of the material in which an end product is made without the use of the extrusion lubricant, including the examples. Hori identifies the extrusion lubricants as being white oil, isoper, smoil and naptha. They are said to be added in amounts ranging from 10-60% by wt. of the PTFE and conductive substance. The extrusion lubricants are driven off when heated (column 5, lines 26-29 and the paragraph bridging columns 6 and 7). It is respectfully submitted that one skilled in the art would fairly consider such extrusion lubricants as "volatile" materials in the

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context of the teachings of Adams since Hori expressly teaches that the lubricant escapes the material upon heating (see column 1, lines 27-30 of Adams as well as column 3, lines 1-8 which teaches against using such volatile components). It is respectfully requested, therefore, that the examiner reconsider the full teachings of Hori, including the requirement for the extrusion lubricant in the material of Hori, in connection with the full teachings of Adams and reconsider and withdraw the final rejection as being improper.

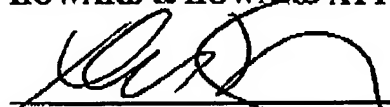
It is believed that this response is a proper after-final response since it raises no new issues to be considered by the examiner apart from a full consideration of the cited references, and could not have been earlier presented since it was not until the final action that the issues addressed herein were first presented.

The Patent Office is authorized to charge or refund any fee deficiency or excess to Deposit Account No. 06-0420.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

August 5, 2005
Date


Robert L. Stearns, Registration No. 36,937
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite #101
39400 Woodward Avenue
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-5151
(248) 723-0427

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **Amendment** for U.S. Serial No.: 10/643,097 filed August 18, 2003 is being sent via facsimile 571-273-8300 to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on August 5, 2005.


Karri M. Chamberlin